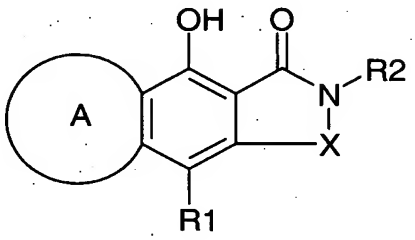
**Listing of Claims:**

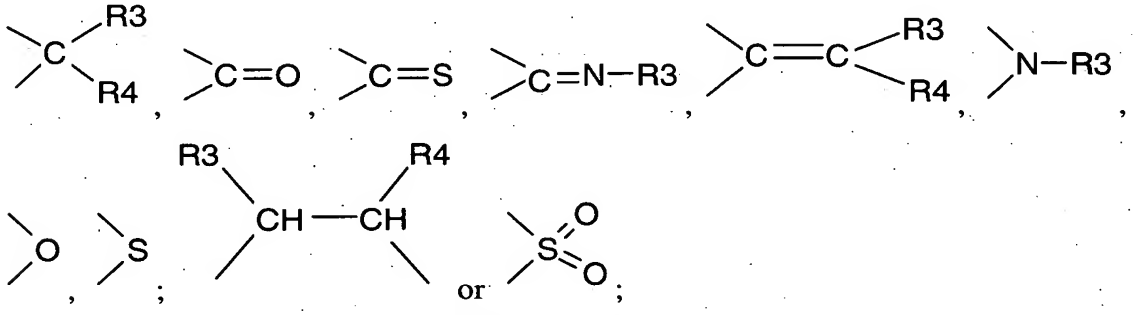
This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned application.

1. (Original) A compound having the formula (I),




and their N-oxides, salts, stereoisomeric forms, racemic mixtures, prodrugs, esters and metabolites thereof, wherein

X is




A, also mentioned as "A-ring", together with the two carbons of the phenyl ring to which it is attached forms a monocyclic aryl or a monocyclic $Het^2$;

$R^1$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, sultam, sultim, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, $C(=NR^8)$-$R^5$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^2$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, $C(=NR^8)$-$R^5$, or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional

substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^3$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl; $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^4$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl or $C_{1-6}$alkyl;

y represents an integer being zero, one or two;

$R^5$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $OR^{12}$, $NR^8R^{13}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^6$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $OR^{12}$, $NR^8R^{13}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^7$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano,$C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^8$ is hydrogen, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl or polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl;

$R^9$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, $C(=NR^8)$-$R^5$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from

halogen, nitro, cyano,$C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$ and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^{10}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{11}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{12}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{13}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$,

$S(=O)_y$-$OR^8$, $S(=O)_y$-$NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, O-C(=O)-$R^8$, O-$S(=O)_y$-$R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8$-C(=O)-$R^8$, and $NR^8$-$S(=O)_y$-$R^8$;

$R^{14}$ is hydrogen, phenyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl;

aryl as a group or part of a group represents a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic or a partially saturated monocyclic or polycyclic carbocycles wherein any such carbocycle within the meaning of aryl may have up to 14 carbon atoms and may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, C(=O)-$R^8$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-$C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}$-$Het^1$, $NR^{14}$-$C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}$-$Het^2$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, C(=O)-$Het^1$, C(=O)-$Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

$Het^1$ as a group or part of a group represents a saturated or partially unsaturated monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 3 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

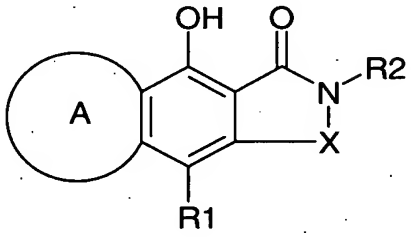
$Het^2$ as a group or part of a group represents an aromatic monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more

heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

for use as a medicine.

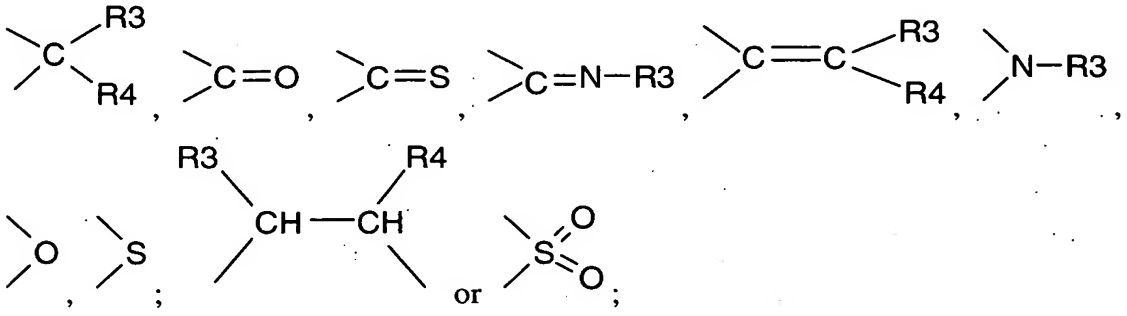
2. (Currently Cancelled)

3. (Original) A compound having the formula (I)




its N-oxide, salt, stereoisomeric form, racemic mixture, prodrug, ester or metabolite thereof, wherein

X is



A, also mentioned as "A-ring", together with the two carbons of the phenyl ring to which it is attached forms a monocyclic aryl or a monocyclic $Het^2$;

$R^1$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, sultam, sultim, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, $C(=NR^8)$-$R^5$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^2$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, $C(=NR^8)$-$R^5$, or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^3$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $C(=O)$-$R^5$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^4$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl or $C_{1-6}$alkyl;

y represents an integer being zero, one or two;

$R^5$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $OR^{12}$, $NR^8R^{13}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^6$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $OR^{12}$, $NR^8R^{13}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)$-$R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^7$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano,$C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^8$ is hydrogen, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl or polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl;

$R^9$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano,$C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$ and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^{10}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{11}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{12}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted

$C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{13}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{14}$ is hydrogen, phenyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl;

aryl as a group or part of a group represents a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic or a partially saturated monocyclic or polycyclic carbocycles wherein any such carbocycle within the meaning of aryl may have up to 14 carbon atoms and may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-O-C(=O)-R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}-Het^1$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}-Het^2$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-Het^1$, $C(=O)-Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, $O-C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

$Het^1$ as a group or part of a group represents a saturated or partially unsaturated monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 3 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where

possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

$Het^2$ as a group or part of a group represents an aromatic monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

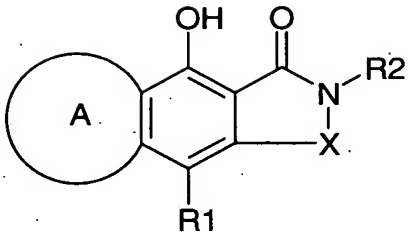
with the proviso that compounds:

- 9-(2,4-Dimethoxy-phenylimino)-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 9-(2,4-Dimethoxy-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 6,7-Dichloro-9-(2,4-dimethoxy-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 4-[6,7-Dichloro-4-(2,4-dimethoxy-phenylimino)-1,3,9-trioxo-1,3,4,9-tetrahydro-benzo[f]isoindol-2-yl]-benzonitrile,
- 6,7-Dichloro-9-(4-methoxy-2-methyl-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 9-(4-Dimethylamino-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,

- 4-Diethylamino-9-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-(But-3-enyl-ethyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-(Ethyl-pent-4-enyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,8-dihydroxy-6-methyl-2-oxa-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 5,9-dihydroxy-7-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]isoquinoline-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2,6-dimethyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-6-methoxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 5-fluoro-4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 6,7-dichloro-4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 6-cyclohexyl-4,8-dihydroxy-1-thia-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-6-methyl-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 7-cyclohexyl-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 2-cyclohexyl-4,9-dihydroxy-6-methoxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 7-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 6,7-dichloro-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-4,9-dihydroxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-hydroxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-9-phenylamino-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1,2-dihydro-benzo[f]indazol-3-one,
- 6,7-dichloro-4,9-dimethoxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione, and
- 6,7-dichloro-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-4,9-dimethoxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,

are excluded.

4. (Original) A compound according to claim 3 having the formula (I),




and their N-oxides, salts, stereoisomeric forms, racemic mixtures, prodrugs, esters and metabolites thereof, wherein

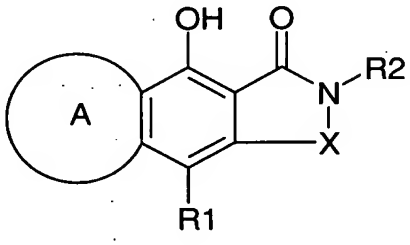
X, A, $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^4$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^8$, $R^9$, $R^{10}$, $R^{11}$, $R^{12}$, $R^{13}$, $R^{14}$, y, aryl, $Het^1$, and $Het^2$ are as defined in claim 1, provided that when the A-ring is phenyl, then $R^2$ is not hydrogen, methyl, cyclohexyl, nor phenyl;

and compounds

- 4,8-dihydroxy-6-methyl-2-oxa-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 5,9-dihydroxy-7-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]isoquinoline-1,3-dione,
- 6-cyclohexyl-4,8-dihydroxy-1-thia-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 7-cyclohexyl-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 7-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,

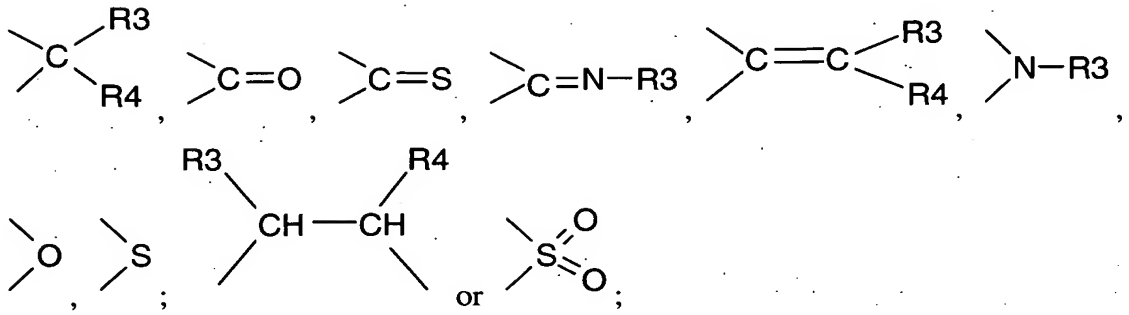
are excluded.

5. (Original) A compound according to claim 3 having the formula (I),




and their N-oxides, salts, stereoisomeric forms, racemic mixtures, prodrugs, esters and metabolites thereof, wherein

X is



A, also mentioned as "A-ring", together with the two carbons of the phenyl ring to which it is attached forms a monocyclic $Het^2$;

$R^1$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, sultam, sultim, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $C(=O)-R^5$, $S(=O)_y-R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^5$, $S(=O)_y-R^6$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^2$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-5}$cycloalkyl, $C_7$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^5$, $S(=O)_y-R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$, $C_{2-6}$alkyl or polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, and the optional substituents on $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^5$, $S(=O)_y-R^6$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^3$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $C(=O)-R^5$, $S(=O)_y-R^6$, $OR^7$, $NR^8R^9$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $C(=O)-R^5$, $OR^7$, and $NR^8R^9$;

$R^4$ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl or $C_{1-6}$alkyl;

y represents an integer being zero, one or two;

$R^5$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $OR^{12}$, $NR^8R^{13}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl,

$C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^6$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $OR^{12}$, $NR^8R^{13}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^7$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano,$C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$, and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^8$ is hydrogen, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl or polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl;

$R^9$ is hydrogen, aryl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano,$C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $OR^{12}$ and $NR^8R^{13}$;

$R^{10}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{11}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are

each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{12}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{13}$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, $OR^8$, $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $NR^8R^8$, $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

$R^{14}$ is hydrogen, phenyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, $C_{2-6}$alkynyl, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl;

aryl as a group or part of a group represents a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic or a partially saturated monocyclic or polycyclic carbocycles wherein any such carbocycle within the meaning of aryl may have up to 14 carbon atoms and may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-O-C(=O)-R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}-Het^1$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}-Het^2$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, $C(=O)-Het^1$, $C(=O)-Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and

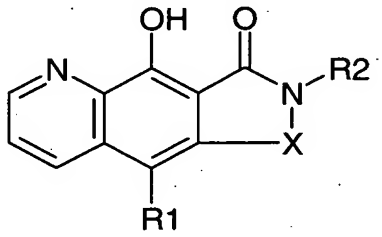
whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

$Het^1$ as a group or part of a group represents a saturated or partially unsaturated monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 3 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

$Het^2$ as a group or part of a group represents an aromatic monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y$-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}$-O-C(=O)-$R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhalo$C_{1-6}$alkyl, O-$C_{1-6}$alkyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl-$NR^{14}R^{14}$;

with the proviso that compound 7-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione is excluded.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the compound has the formula (IIa)



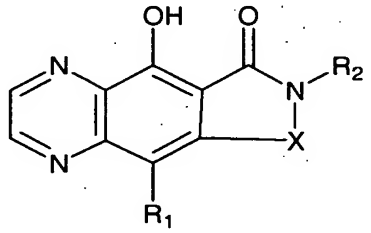

whereby

the pyridinyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, C(=O)-$Het^1$, C(=O)-$Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$;

and whereby

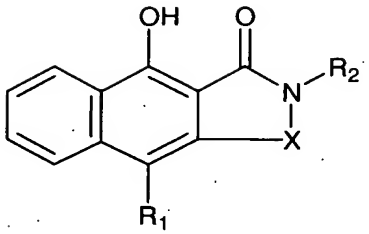
$R^2$ is not 3,5-dichlorophenyl, nor cyclohexyl, nor methyl.

7. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the compound has the formula (IIb)



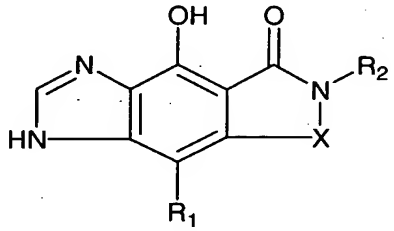

whereby the pyrazinyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, C(=O)-$Het^1$, C(=O)-$Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$.

8. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the compound has the formula (IIc)



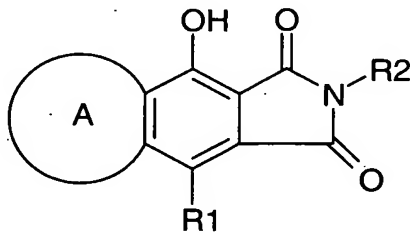

whereby the phenyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, C(=O)-$Het^1$, C(=O)-$Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby $R^2$ is not hydrogen, methyl, cyclohexyl, nor phenyl.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the compound has the formula (IId)




whereby the imidazolyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted $C_{2-6}$alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{2-6}$alkenyl and $C_{2-6}$alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-$R^{14}$, $OR^{14}$, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, C(=O)-$Het^1$, C(=O)-$Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the compound has the formula (III)



11. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ wherein

X is -C(=O)-;

$R^1$ is $-OR^7$;

$R^2$ is hydrogen, $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, or optionally substituted $C_{1-6}$alkyl; whereby the optional substituent on $C_{1-6}$alkyl is selected from $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$, $Het^2$, and preferably is $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl, aryl, $Het^1$.

12. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 5~~ selected from any of the following compounds:

- 7-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(5-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-5-(benzyl-methyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione
- Dodecanoic acid 7-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-9-hydroxy-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5-yl ester
- Acetic acid 9-acetoxy-7-(3,4-dichloro-benzyl)-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5-yl ester
- 7-(3,5-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Chloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- Dicyclopropanecarboxylic acid 7-(3,4-dichloro-benzyl)-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5,9-diyl ester
- 7-(3-Bromo-4-fluoro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Bromo-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Bromo-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione

13. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount of at least one compound selected from any of the following compounds:

- 7-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(5-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-5-(benzyl-methyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione
- Dodecanoic acid 7-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-9-hydroxy-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5-yl ester
- Acetic acid 9-acetoxy-7-(3,4-dichloro-benzyl)-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5-yl ester
- 7-(3,5-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Chloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- Dicyclopropanecarboxylic acid 7-(3,4-dichloro-benzyl)-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5,9-diyl ester
- 7-(3-Bromo-4-fluoro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Bromo-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Bromo-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione

~~as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 12,~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.